



## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# News Release

*Pacific Islands External Affairs Office*

300 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 5-311 Box 50187, Honolulu, HI 96850  
Phone: 808 792-9530 Fax: 808 792-9583

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Contact: Ken Foote, 808 792 9535 or 282 9442

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### **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Updates List of Candidates For Endangered Species Act Listing**

#### *Hawai'i Continues to Lead the Nation in Number of Candidate Species*

The updated Candidate Notice of Review, a yearly appraisal of the candidate species list detailing those plants and animals that may warrant protection under the Endangered Species Act was released by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service today. Since the last review in May 2005, ten species have been removed from the national list and four species from the list of Pacific Island species.

The updated list of 279 native plant and animal species was published in the *Federal Register* today. Hawai'i leads the nation with the greatest number of candidates on the list at 103 species. An additional 12 candidate species are from other Pacific Islands.

The Service is soliciting public comment and additional information for candidate species, as well as information about species that should be included in future candidate updates. This information will be considered in preparing listing documents and future revisions or supplements to the notice of review.

"The candidate list encourages the Service, state, and our partners to take a cooperative management approach in reducing the threats these species face and thereby removing the need to list them as endangered or threatened," said Patrick Leonard, field supervisor for the Fish and Wildlife Service's Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office.

Four Pacific Island species were removed from this years' list and include: the many-colored fruit dove (*Ptilinopus perousii perousii*) from American Samoa, two species of anchialine pool shrimp (*Antecaridina lauensis* and *Calliasmata pholidota*) from Hawai'i, and the po'olānui gall fly (*Phaeogramma* sp.) also from Hawai'i.

The many-colored fruit dove was removed from the list because the Service found that the stable distribution of the species (also found in Independent Samoa) and recent documented increase in relative abundance in American Samoa suggest that the threats to the species are not having a detrimental effect on the subspecies' overall population at present.

The po'olānui gall fly was removed from the list because the species does not have a valid taxonomic description or name, thus it does not meet the definition of a species under the ESA. The two species of anchialine pool shrimp were removed because there is insufficient

information on the species' status throughout their ranges to determine whether these species warrants protection under the ESA.

A candidate species is one for which the Service has a sufficient amount of information on biological vulnerability and threats to support a proposal to list as endangered or threatened, but for which preparation and publication of a proposal is precluded by higher priority listing actions. Candidate species are assigned a listing priority number of 1-12 depending on the magnitude and imminence of threats, and by their taxonomic status.

### Candidate Species –Pacific Islands

#### Mammals (2)

Priority	Common Name	Scientific Name	Historic Range
3	Bat, Pacific sheath-tailed	<i>Emballonura semicaudata rotensis</i>	Guam and CNMI <sup>1</sup>
3	Bat, Pacific sheath-tailed	<i>Emballonura semicaudata semicaudata</i>	American Samoa

#### Birds (4)

Priority	Common Name	Scientific Name	Historic Range
3	Spotless Crane	<i>Porzana tabuensis</i>	American Samoa, Australia, Fiji, Independent Samoa, Marquesas, Philippines, Society Islands, Tonga
2	Kaua'i Creeper	<i>Oreomystis bairdi</i>	Hawai'i
6	Friendly Ground-dove	<i>Gallicolumba stairi stairi</i>	American Samoa, Independent Samoa
3	Band-rumped storm petrel	<i>Oceanodroma castro</i>	Hawai'i

#### Snails (9)

Priority	Common Name	Scientific Name	Historic Range
2	Fragile tree snail	<i>Samoana fragilis</i>	Guam and CNMI
2	Guam tree snail	<i>Partula radiolata</i>	Guam
2	Humped tree snail	<i>Partula gibba</i>	Guam and CNMI
2	Lāna'i tree snail	<i>Partulina semicarinata</i>	Hawai'i
2	Lāna'i tree snail	<i>Partulina variabilis</i>	Hawai'i
2	Newcomb's tree snail	<i>Newcombia cumingi</i>	Hawai'i
2	Langford's tree snail	<i>Partula langfordi</i>	Guam and CNMI
2	Tutuila tree snail	<i>Eua zebrina</i>	American Samoa
2	Sisi snail	<i>Ostodes strigatus</i>	American Samoa

#### Insects (11)

Priority	Common Name	Scientific Name	Historic Range
8	Wēkiu bug	<i>Nysius wekiuicola</i>	Hawai'i
3	Mariana eight-spot butterfly	<i>Hypolimnna octucula mariannensis</i>	Guam and CNMI
2	Mariana wandering butterfly	<i>Vagrans egestina</i>	Guam and CNMI
Varies by species from 2 - 9	Hawaiian damselflies (6 species)	<i>Megalagrion</i> spp	Hawai'i
2	Picture wing flies	<i>Drosophila attigua</i>	Hawai'i
		<i>Drosophila digressa</i>	Hawai'i

<sup>1</sup> CNMI = Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

### Crustaceans (4)

Priority	Common Name	Scientific Name	Historic Range
5	Anchialine pool shrimp	<i>Metabetaeus lohena</i>	Hawai'i
5		<i>Palaemonella burnsi</i>	Hawai'i
5		<i>Procaris hawaiana</i>	Hawai'i
4		<i>Vetericaris chaceorum</i>	Hawai'i

### Ferns and Allies (4)

Priority	Common Name	Scientific Name	Historic Range
2	No common name	<i>Christella boydiae</i> (= <i>Cyclosorus boydiae</i> var. <i>boydiae</i> = <i>Cyclosorus boydiae</i> <i>kipahuluensis</i> )	Hawai'i
2	No common name	<i>Doryopteris takeuchii</i>	Hawai'i
2	Wāwae'iole	<i>Huperzia</i> (= <i>Phlegmariurus</i> ) <i>stemmermanniae</i>	Hawai'i
3	Palapali	<i>Microlepia strigosa</i> var. <i>mauiensis</i> (= <i>Microlepia mauiensis</i> )	Hawai'i

### Flowering Plants (81)

Priority	Common Name	Scientific Name	Historic Range
2	Pa'iniu	<i>Astelia waialealae</i>	Hawai'i
Varies by species from 2 - 8	Ko'oko'olau (5)	<i>Bidens</i> spp.	Hawai'i
2	No common name (2)	<i>Calamagrostis</i> spp.	Hawai'i
2	'Āwikiwiki (2)	<i>Canavalia</i> spp.	Hawai'i
Varies by species from 2 - 3	'Akoko (3)	<i>Chamaesyce</i> spp.	Hawai'i
2	Pāpala	<i>Charpentiera densiflora</i>	Hawai'i
2	Hāhā (7)	<i>Cyanea</i> spp.	Hawai'i
2	'Akū	<i>Cyanea tritomantha</i>	Hawai'i
2	Ha'iwale (5)	<i>Cyrtandra</i> spp.	Hawai'i
Varies by species from 2 - 3	Na'ena'e (3)	<i>Dubautia</i> spp.	Hawai'i
2	No common name	<i>Festuca hawaiiensis</i>	Hawai'i
2	Nānū	<i>Gardenia remyi</i>	Hawai'i
Varies by species from 5 - 8	Nohoanu (3)	<i>Geranium</i> spp.	Hawai'i
2	Kampua'a	<i>Hedyotis fluvialis</i>	Hawai'i
3	'Ohe	<i>Joinvillea ascendens ascendens</i>	Hawai'i
2	No common name (2)	<i>Keysseria</i> (= <i>Lagenifera</i> ) spp.	Hawai'i
2	Hulumoa	<i>Korthalsella degeneri</i>	Hawai'i
2	Kāmakahala (2)	<i>Labordia</i> spp.	Hawai'i
2	Lehua makanoe	<i>Lysimachia daphnoides</i>	Hawai'i
2	Alani (6)	<i>Melicope</i> spp.	Hawai'i
2	Kōlea (3)	<i>Myrsine</i> spp.	Hawai'i
2	'Aiea	<i>Nothocestrum latifolium</i>	Hawai'i
2	Hōlei	<i>Ochrosia haleakalae</i>	Hawai'i
2	'Ala'alawai nui	<i>Peperomia subpetiolata</i>	Hawai'i
2	No common name (3)	<i>Phyllostegia</i> spp.	Hawai'i
2	Hō'awa	<i>Pittosporum napaliense</i>	Hawai'i
2	No common name (3)	<i>Platydesma</i> spp.	Hawai'i

2	Pilokea lauli'i	<i>Platydesma rostrata</i>	Hawai'i
2	Halapepe (2)	<i>Pleomele</i> spp.	Hawai'i
2	Loulu	<i>Pritchardia hardyi</i>	Hawai'i
3	'Ena'ena	<i>Pseudognaphalium</i> (= <i>Gnaphalium</i> ) <i>sandwicensium</i> var. <i>molokaiense</i>	Hawai'i
Varies by species from 2 - 3	Kōpiko (3)	<i>Psychotria</i> spp.	Hawai'i
2	Kaulu	<i>Pteralyxia macrocarpa</i>	Hawai'i
2	Makou (2)	<i>Ranunculus</i> spp.	Hawai'i
2	Mā'oli'oli	<i>Schiedea pubescens</i>	Hawai'i
2	No common name (2)	<i>Schiedea</i> spp.	Hawai'i
2	'Ānunu	<i>Sicyos macrophyllus</i>	Hawai'i
2	Pōpolo	<i>Solanum nelsonii</i>	Hawai'i
2	No common name (2)	<i>Stenogyne</i> spp.	Hawai'i
2	A'e	<i>Zanthoxylum oahuense</i>	Hawai'i

The complete Notice and list of candidates and proposed species may be obtained via the Service's website at <http://www.fws.gov/policy/library/06-7375.pdf>. The Service will accept comments on the Candidate Notice of Review at any time.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 95-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, which encompasses 545 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 69 national fish hatcheries, 64 fishery resources offices and 81 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign and Native American tribal governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Assistance program, which distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.